

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1078

By Yager

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Mary E. Hickey of Rockwood.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Mary E. Hickey, an exemplary individual and lifelong educator who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for her fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, known affectionately as "Bunny" or "Bun," Mrs. Hickey was born on April 8, 1937; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Hickey served the Harriman City School System for more than thirty years as the librarian at Central Elementary, and, prior to integration, she taught at Jamieson School; although known as quite the disciplinarian, Mrs. Hickey was a loving teacher who tried to ensure that her students learned not only the curriculum in school but important life lessons; and

WHEREAS, she was a dedicated member of the Roane County Retired Teachers organization, which she served as past president; she also served on the Harriman City Library Board and was a member of the Harriman Music Club, and

WHEREAS, a phenomenal musician and singer, Mrs. Hickey served faithfully as the minister of music at her beloved St. Mary's Missionary Baptist Church; she was a student of the Bible and taught Sunday School, served on the Women's Missionary Board, and, later, served on the Church Mother's Board; and

WHEREAS, in addition to playing music at her church, Mrs. Hickey was a musician with the Roane County Community Chorus from its inception in 1968, and she also played for the Douglas Family Singers; and

WHEREAS, she was also deeply devoted to her family, and she always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, she is survived by her loving husband, Richard Hickey; loving and devoted daughter, Mary Alice Douglass; bonus children, Gary (Lisa) Hickey, Jill (Keith) Johnson, and Robin Hickey; grandchildren, Shea Douglass, Kiersten "Sugar Girl" (Darren) Upshaw, Kecia Sanders, Richard (Lindsey) Sanders, Rodney "Maestro" (Lakesha), and Tyler Hickey; great-grandchildren, Kaiden Douglass, Braelyn Douglass, Daycien Upshaw, Kyreese Upshaw, Kortney Sanders, Cameron Sanders, and Christian Sanders; special friends, Julia Harris, Laura Ann Winton, and Pat Taylor; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends; and

WHEREAS, she was preceded in death by her mother, Vera Mae Frazier; siblings, Arthur Frazier, Charles Wadley, Curtis Wadley, Frances Frazier, and Rosa Osborne; son-in-law, Reverend Alvin Douglass; sisters-in-law, Marie Frazier, Cardel Tharpe, Frances Curry, and Cleo Hickey; and brothers-in-law, Donald Hickey and William Billy Robinson; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Hickey leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Mary E. Hickey, reflecting fondly upon her impeccable character and her stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mrs. Hickey.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.